

Federal Register on May 10, 2005 (70 FR 24697).

The actions of the Government of Syria in supporting terrorism, interfering in Lebanon, pursuing weapons of mass destruction and missile programs, and undermining United States and international efforts with respect to the stabilization and reconstruction of Iraq, pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue in effect the national emergency authorizing the blocking of property of certain persons and prohibiting the exportation and reexportation of certain goods to Syria and to maintain in force the sanctions to respond to this threat.

George W. Bush

The White House,
May 8, 2006.

Memorandum on Assignment of Function Relating to Granting of Authority for Issuance of Certain Directives

May 5, 2006

Memorandum for the Director of National Intelligence

Subject: Assignment of Function Relating to Granting of Authority for Issuance of Certain Directives

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, including section 301 of title 3, United States Code, I hereby assign to you the function of the President under section 13(b)(3)(A) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (15 U.S.C. 78m(b)(3)(A)). In performing such function, you should consult the heads of departments and agencies, as appropriate.

You are authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 9:04 a.m., May 11, 2006]

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 9, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on May 12.

Memorandum on Assignment of Function Concerning Assistance to Afghanistan

May 8, 2006

Memorandum for the Secretary of State, the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, and the Director of National Intelligence

Subject: Assignment of Function Concerning Assistance to Afghanistan

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States, including section 301 of title 3, United States Code, the function of the President under the heading “Economic Support Fund” in the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–102) that relates to waiver of a proviso is assigned to the Secretary of State. The Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Director of National Intelligence shall, consistent with applicable law, provide the Secretary of State with such information as may be necessary to assist the Secretary in the performance of such function.

The Secretary of State is authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 9. An original was not available for verification of the content of this memorandum.

Remarks to Reporters in Coconut Creek, Florida

May 9, 2006

The President. I want to thank you all for joining us. I’m proud to be here with Secretary Leavitt. We’re traveling the country

reminding people that there's a fantastic opportunity for our seniors, and that is, Medicare now offers a prescription drug benefit that will save people a lot of money.

We just visited with some of our citizens inside there, and they're talking about significant savings. And that's what we want; we want our seniors to be able to have modern medicine. So far a lot of seniors have signed up. It's coming down the stretch toward the May 15th deadline; we want everybody to sign up. We want people to understand that they're going to save a lot of money when it comes to prescription drugs.

And I appreciate Secretary Leavitt's hard work. One of the things that our seniors have got to understand, that if you qualify for extra help in the program, if you're a low-income senior that qualifies for extra help, the May 15th deadline doesn't apply to you, you'll have time to take a look—we want everybody signing up. And if you're a low-income senior, you get—the Government pays about 95 percent or more of your prescription drug benefit. So it's worthwhile for people to look.

I want to thank groups like the AARP, NAACP, many in the faith community, community-based groups, all for working hard to educate seniors as to what's available. This is a good deal for America's seniors, and I'm proud to have signed a law to modernize Medicare, and I'm proud to be working with Michael.

I also want to thank Congressman Foley and Congressman Clay Shaw for joining us. They're strong backers of Medicare reform. They were informing me that a lot of their citizens have signed up. In south Florida, people are taking advantage of this program. And I strongly urge people to take a look and see what's available.

[At this point, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services Michael O. Leavitt made brief remarks.]

The President. Thank you all for joining us. Thank you all very much, I appreciate it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:53 a.m. in the OMNI Auditorium at Broward Community College. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Sec-

retary Leavitt. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks on the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit and a Question-and-Answer Session in Sun City Center, Florida

May 9, 2006

The President. Thanks for coming. Please be seated. Thanks for the warm welcome. It's great to be here in Sun City Center. Brother Jeb said, "If you want to come to a really good place, come here." First of all, I think it's a pretty neat deal when you get introduced by your brother, particularly since he's such a good Governor. We both share the same political adviser—Mom. *[Laughter]* I don't know if Mother is still telling you what to do, Jeb, but she's certainly telling me what to do all the time. *[Laughter]*

And both of us married well. The first lady of Florida is a fantastic woman, and so is the First Lady of the United States. Laura sends her very best. She sends her love. Yesterday she represented us in Costa Rica. They inaugurated a new President, and they sent the word back—please send the best in your family. *[Laughter]* So we sent Laura.

I'm also proud to be joined by Congressman Adam Putnam. Where's Adam? There he is. Thank you. He's a smart guy. He's a smart person, and he's a good guy to work with, and I appreciate you being here, Adam.

I want to thank the WCI Communities' leadership and staff for having me here.

What I thought I would do is spend a little time talking about the new Medicare program. The reason I'm doing this, because I want people to sign up. And then I'll answer some questions, if you have some. And then I'm going to go over to Orlando and do the same thing tomorrow morning—just like I did earlier in south Florida. And the reason why I'm doing this is because we have changed Medicare for the better, but sometimes change creates anxieties. In other words, people say, "Well, maybe I don't want to change. I kind of like it the way things are." And—but we have a duty to educate people and give them a chance to see what's